

MINUTES

MONTANA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES 59th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE ON TAXATION

Call to Order: By **CHAIRMAN KARL WAITSCHIES**, on January 14, 2005
at 8:00 A.M., in Room 152 Capitol.

ROLL CALL

00:02:49

Members Present:

Rep. Karl Waitschies, Chairman (R)
Rep. Gary Branae, Vice Chairman (D)
Rep. Bob Lake, Vice Chairman (R)
Rep. John Balyeat (R)
Rep. Norma Bixby (D)
Rep. Edward B. Butcher (R)
Rep. Jill Cohenour (D)
Rep. Wanda Grinde (D)
Rep. George G. Groesbeck (D)
Rep. Dennis Himmelberger (R)
Rep. Carol Lambert (R)
Rep. Dave McAlpin (D)
Rep. Jim Peterson (R)
Rep. Holly Raser (D)
Rep. John (Jack) W. Ross (R)
Rep. Scott Sales (R)
Rep. Bill Warden (R)
Rep. Brady Wiseman (D)

Members Excused: Rep. Margaret H. Campbell (D)
Rep. Tom Facey (D)

Members Absent: None.

Staff Present: Jeff Martin, Legislative Branch
Debra Polhemus, Committee Secretary

Audio Committees: These minutes are in outline form only. They provide a list of participants and a record of official action taken by the committee. The link to the audio recording of the meeting is available on the Legislative Branch website.

Committee Business Summary:

Hearing & Date Posted: HB 246, 1/6/2005; HB 134, 1/7/2005;
HB 219, 1/11/2005

Executive Action: HB 54, HB 193

HEARING ON HB 246

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:04:03 REP. RON STOKER (R), HD 87, opened the hearing on
HB 246, Property tax exemption for veterans'
organization's land.

Proponents' Testimony: None.

Opponents' Testimony: None.

Informational Testimony:

00:09:05 Dolores Cooney, Department of Revenue
00:09:25 Benjamin Good

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

00:10:33 REP. ROSS
00:11:51 REP. LAKE
00:12:46 REP. SALES
00:14:19 REP. WISEMAN
00:15:43 REP. RASER
00:20:16 REP. BUTCHER
00:23:07 REP. BALYEAT

Closing by Sponsor:

00:23:35 REP. RON STOKER (R), HD 87, closed the hearing on
HB 246.

HEARING ON HB 134

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:24:57 REP. GEORGE GOLIE (D), HD 20, opened the hearing
on HB 134, Income tax credit for expenses for
education at Montana University System.

Proponents' Testimony:

00:27:37 Gale Price, President, Association of Students,
University of Montana, Missoula, Montana
00:30:02 Cathy Conover, Montana State University, Bozeman,
Montana
00:30:59 Connie Summers, Association of Students, Montana
State University Campus Billings, Montana
00:32:02 Megan Dumas, Association of Students, Montana
State University, Bozeman, Montana

Opponents' Testimony: None.

Informational Testimony:

00:32:50 Jim McKeon, Department of Revenue

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

00:33:12 **REP. LAKE**
00:37:25 **REP. SALES**
00:37:52 **REP. BUTCHER**
00:41:41 **REP. WISEMAN**
00:44:21 **REP. WARDEN**
00:46:12 **CHAIRMAN WAITSCHIES**

Closing by Sponsor:

00:48:31 **REP. GEORGE GOLIE (D)**, HD 20 closed the hearing on
HB 134.

[**EXHIBIT**](#)(tah10a01)

HEARING ON HB 219

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:50:31 **REP. EMELIE EATON (D)**, HD 58, opened the hearing
on **HB 219**, Allow exemption for Montana income tax
based upon household poverty level.

Proponents' Testimony:

00:53:08 Gene Fenderson, Montana Progressive Labor Caucus
00:54:42 Eric Schiedermayer, Executive Director, Montana
Catholic Conference

[**EXHIBIT**](#)(tah10a02)

00:56:24 Kim Abbott, Working for Equality and Liberation
(WEEL)

Opponents' Testimony: None.

Informational Testimony:

00:57:26 Jim McKeon, Department of Revenue

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

01:01:07 CHAIRMAN WAITSCHIES
01:01:42 REP. LAKE
01:03:42 REP. SALES
01:04:07 REP. WISEMAN
01:05:29 CHAIRMAN WAITSCHIES
01:09:21 REP. RASER

Closing by Sponsor:

01:10:43 REP. EMELIE EATON (D) closed the hearing on HB
219.

01:11:41 Break
01:30:54 Resume

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 54

01:31:21 **Motion:** REP. LAMBERT moved that HB54 DO PASS.

Discussion:

01:31:55 REP. LAKE
01:33:46 REP. SALES
01:35:06 REP. BUTCHER
01:36:05 REP. ROSS
01:36:41 REP. COHENOUR
01:37:10 REP. BRANAE
01:37:26 REP. WISEMAN

01:38:03 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote
with REPS. CAMPBELL and FACEY voting by proxy.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 193

01:39:02 **Motion:** REP. LAKE moved HB 193 DO PASS.

Discussion:

01:39:41 Jeff Martin, Legislative Services Division
01:41:00 REP. RASER
01:43:46 REP. COHENOUR
01:44:36 REP. BALYEAT
01:48:08 REP. BUTCHER
01:50:42 REP. SALES
01:51:13 REP. LAMBERT
01:51:28 REP. PETERSON
01:52:52 REP. ROSS
01:53:53 REP. RASER
01:55:21 REP. PETERSON

01:55:32 **REP. BRANAE**

01:55:50 **REP. GRINDE**

01:56:26 **Vote: Motion carried unanimously by roll call
vote with REPS. CAMPBELL and FACEY voting by
proxy.**

01:58:22

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 10:00 A.M.

REP. KARL WAITSCHIES, Chairman

DEBRA POLHEMUS, Secretary

KW/DP

Additional Exhibits:

EXHIBIT ([tah10aad0.PDF](#))